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WEEKEND READING FOR THE PRESIDENT

REFER TO DOS

17-18 January 1970

Contents

BRITAIN AND EUROPE

1. Philippe Simonnot, "Britain and the EEC: Hesitations on the Threshold," LE MONDE (Weekly Selection), December 31, 1969.
2. John P. Mackintosh, "Britain in Europe: Historical Perspective and Contemporary Reality," International Affairs, April 1969.

These two articles may be of interest in view of your forthcoming meetings with Prime Minister Wilson. In the first article, a French journalist discusses the uncertainty that still exists among British officials, economists, and bankers on the economic advantages of entering the Common Market. The writer's own analysis leads him to the conclusion that, while there will be costs in membership, Britain will gain on balance from the expanding market which she needs for her technologically advanced industries. In the second article, a British political scientist and Member of Parliament describes clearly and perceptively the deeper political and historical changes that lie behind Britain's present desire to join Europe. Occasional hints of British reluctance should not be given exaggerated importance, he argues, because a strong and irreversible European orientation has already become the dominant feature of Britain's foreign policy. More lies behind this new orientation than her short-term economic problems.

US, USSR, AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA

3. Walter C. Clemens, Jr., "Czechoslovakia and U.S. Policy: All or Nothing at All?," War/Peace Report, January 1970.

The writer, an academic observer of Soviet foreign policy and military affairs, disagrees with those who assume that the U.S. had no options by which it could have sought to forestall the invasion of Czechoslovakia without risking nuclear war. The signals coming from Washington in the spring and summer of 1968, he states, seemed

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deliberately to omit any of the positive inducements or possible deterrents that might have led the Kremlin to second thoughts about armed intervention. He suggests that realistic but nonbelligerent warnings that the USSR would pay a political price for invasion would have strengthened the hand of anti-interventionists in the Politburo.

SINO-SOVIET CONFLICT

4. Jeremy J. Stone, "The First Nuclear War?" War/Peace Report, November 1969.

Signals point to the possibility that the Soviet Union may be considering a pre-emptive attack on China's nuclear facilities; the author believes that this would be an all-around disaster, and that the U.S. should say so now. Otherwise, if such an attack occurred, U.S. complicity might be assumed in many quarters. To stay out of the dispute is a good idea, but to stand mute and encourage a dangerous drift would be a failure of moral leadership on the part of the U.S. The author has written widely on arms control problems.

MIDDLE EAST

5. Gordon H. Torrey, "Instability in Syria," Current History, January 1970.

The author, one of the top Arab analysts in the U.S. Government and an expert especially on Syria, examines the political situation within Syria and how this relates to Syria's radical role in the Middle East and to its other international relations. He foresees no change in basic Syrian policies and thinks that Syria's hard stance toward Israel may even intensify if the prospects for an Arab-Israeli settlement further diminish.